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safeguard against all the evils of interference in affairs that do not specially concern us is to abstain from such interference altogether. . . . The general act of Berlin has utterly failed to correct, if indeed it has not aggravated, the very evils which it was designed to prevent."

The bad fruits of the entanglement in Samoa have more than justified Mr. Gresham's advice. We ought to have kept out of it in the first instance. We ought to get out of it now. A simple protectorate of the three powers, the "hands off" policy, the natives being left to their own government, might work. But a British—American—German—Samoan—Consul-General—Chief-Justice—War-ship government,—nothing could be much more incongruous. War between the three great nations involved may be avoided this time, and the Commission just sent out may arrive at some temporary adjustment, but if the present mode of government is continued it means trouble in the future. The Samoan and Philippine first fruits of our entrance upon the career of a so-called world-power bodes anything but peace either to ourselves or others. It is a policy of blood, as it has been with every European power from the beginning.

The Ludicrous-
ness of it.

Ernest Howard Crosby, in *The Coming Age*, in an article urging that the opportunity offered by the Czar's Conference be made the most of, writes thus:

"I am inclined to think that the most effective way to approach the subject is on its ludicrous side. It is really a matter for opera bouffe, this business of armaments. If only Gilbert and Sullivan had depicted a neighborhood organized on the same principle! Fancy all the householders of a village day after day bringing into their homes new catapults and blunderbusses, watching each other from the windows, each one trying to scrape money together to buy two weapons when his neighbor buys one, practicing at shooting at the mark with their families in the back-yard, going barefooted and hungry so as to pay the gun-smith's bill, treating each other with the most punctilious politeness meanwhile, and in twenty long years never so much as shaking a fist at each other, and yet making greater preparations for a row than ever! Even in Kentucky such a comic opera would bring down the house. Now, imagine in such a community that one of these starving householders suggests a conference to spare himself the necessity of spending the best part of his income next year on bludgeons and battering-rams. The meeting is convened under safe conducts in a room bristling with bayonets and smelling of powder. Is it really possible that these honest gentlemen could look each other in the eye with a straight face? I doubt it, and if the diplomats and courtiers of Europe,—and alas, the statesmen and politicians of America as well,—were not steeped in an atmosphere of the most ridiculous make-believe, they too would find it easy to bring the whole absurd system to an end in a hearty fit of laughter. Oh, for a little of that sense of humor which we think we have, and which we so sorely need!"

Brevities.

. . . Mr. Thomas Willing Balch of Philadelphia we are glad to see has just published a new edition of the little book entitled "International Courts of Arbitration", first published by his father Thomas Balch in 1874. The book which was noticed in these columns some time ago, gives an interesting account of the movement of opinion which led to the Alabama arbitrations. The publishers are Henry T. Coates and Co., Philadelphia.

. . . Dr. Frederic R. Marvin of Albany sends us a copy of a little book of his entitled "Christ Among the Cattle", published by J. O. Wright and Co., New York. It states the argument for the immortality of animals in as strong a light as is probably possible. It cites the opinions of a number of eminent men—Agassiz and Whittier among them—who have believed in the immortality of animals. It is a beautiful book, in make-up, in thought and in spirit.

. . . Rabbi Hirsch of Chicago says that "triumphant democracy cannot wear the helmet of the war-god. Aggression cannot be its temper. It must be a prince of peace. Militarism shall have no apologists and prophets among a free people. The plough, and not the sword, is the emblem of the people's consecration to the ideals of liberty.

. . . Ex-President Harrison is to be the leading counsel of Venezuela before the Anglo-Venezuelan Arbitration Tribunal which is to meet in Paris this summer for the settlement of the Venezuela boundary question. Otherwise it is said that he would have been the chairman of the delegation to the Czar's Conference at The Hague.

. . . "Take a hundred ruffians out of any Anglo-Saxon city, wash, dress, feed and arm them, and they will storm batteries, capture cities at the point of the bayonet, and die in heaps for their party; yet they are but ruffians."—*Ian Maclaren*.

. . . William T. Stead has published under the title, "The United States of Europe", his observations during his tour of Europe made last autumn in the interest of the Czar's Conference.

. . . In the March number of *Education* President Ethelbert D. Warfield, of Lafayette College, Pa., discussed the subject of "International Sympathy" in a short but strong and lucid paper.

. . . Out of the 180 members of the Danish Parliament 111 are members of the Inter-parliamentary Peace Union. An address to the Danish government in support of the Czar's rescript has been signed by nearly 300,000 out of the 2,000,000 of inhabitants.

. . . The annual meeting of the French International Arbitration Society was held on the 21st of March. The chief feature of the meeting was a brilliant address by Dr. Charles Richet of the Sorbonne in reply to recent strictures made by Mr. Ferdinand Brunetiere.

. . . The report that the circulation of Mr. Stead's Peace Crusade paper, *War Against War*, was forbidden in Russia proves to be without foundation. The Baroness von Suttner's great romance, "Lay Down Your Arms", also circulates without opposition in the Czar's dominions.

. . . The French Committee having charge of the arrangements for the Peace Congress to be held at Paris in 1900 announce that the Congress will be held in the month of September, on the Exposition grounds, in the *Palais des Congres*, or building set apart for Congresses.

. . . The Swedish parliament has voted 2,388,000 crowns for the purchase of rifles, and 2,200,000 for the improvement of the Swedish fortifications. Thus does militarism continue to devour both small and great.

. . . Signor Marconi, the inventor of the system of wireless telegraphy has succeeded in transmitting messages across the English Channel a distance of thirty-two miles. The first message transmitted was sent by the Morse code and was published in the *London Times*.

. . . Of the total appropriations, \$1,566,890,016, made in two years by the last Congress, \$482,562,083 were on account of the war with Spain. When all counted it will be \$500,000,000.

Manifesto of the Czar.

JOHN COLLINS.

The hour has struck—its echoes wake the nations,
Drifting unconscious on a stormy sea,
While, far and near, its solemn, deep vibrations
Appeal for peace through centuries yet to be.

From frozen climes where winter reigns forever,
From southern seas by icy winds unknown,
Rings out the cry, "Shall aught our friendship sever,
Parting the peoples of each distant zone?"

"Shall war with all its horrors devastating
And influence malign, its power extend
From year to year, in reckless fury wasting
Millions of men and treasure without end?"

"Forbid it, heaven!" comes up in chorus swelling,
From fur-clad Russ and Cossack of the Don,
From Scandinavian and Italian dwelling,
Or lands the burning tropic sun shines on.

From fields once drenched with blood of foes contending,
From cities ravaged by the tide of war,
A thrilling protest now the past is sending,
Imploring men that it be known no more.

Nor these alone—a cry of bitter anguish
Or hopeless grief on every breeze is borne,
From homes, where thousands now are doomed to languish
And loss of friends and nearest kindred mourn.

On Britain's shores, from many a heart ascending,
Prayers rise in concert to a Power on high,
That diverse nations, all their interests blending,
May know a common brotherhood and tie.

Columbia, too, declares her friendly greeting,
With voice responsive to the Czar's appeal,
In worn humanity's best cause, entreating
Peace, for the sake of every commonweal.

Ah! may we learn from all the desolation
Of former empires crumbled into dust,
Naught can avail to elevate a nation
Placing on brutal force alone its trust.

Let not the myriad mingled voices crying
For justice, love and mercy, be unheard,
But, round the earth fraternal words be flying,
That monarchs may to better life be stirred.

Up then! all patriots of whatever station,
Denounce the spirit and the aims of war,
Till swords are sheathed and final arbitration
Shall end its woes and confidence restore.

So shall mankind be blest throughout the ages
That yet may dawn upon a guilty world,
And History show no more its blood-stained pages
When flags of Peace are everywhere unfurled.
Philadelphia, May, 1899.

Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society.

The seventy-first Annual Business Meeting of the American Peace Society met in room A., Tremont Temple at 2.15 P. M., May 8th. President Paine presided. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Charles G. Ames. L. H. Pillsbury was appointed Secretary of the meeting. The records of the previous meeting were read and approved. Secretary Trueblood reported that all the persons chosen at the last annual meeting as officers had accepted their appointment.

A number of letters were presented by the Secretary from members of the Society expressing their regrets at not being able to be present, and their continued interest in the work.

On motion, the chairman appointed Wm. E. Sheldon, Dr. S. F. Hershey, and Rev. Wm. S. Heywood, a committee to bring forward names of persons to serve as officers of the Society for the coming year.

The Treasurer's annual report was then read. It showed that \$5610.51 had been received during the year and \$5250.17 paid out, leaving a balance on hand of \$360.34.

The assets and liabilities account showed a balance of \$1560.00 due the Permanent Peace Fund, against which the Society has ten shares of railroad stock estimated at \$1400.00, and the \$360.34 in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Auditor reported that he had examined the accounts of the Treasurer and office account of the Secretary, and found them correctly kept and vouchers for all money paid out.

Secretary Trueblood presented for information the annual statement of the Treasurer of the Permanent Peace Fund showing the income received from the fund. He stated that the income had materially diminished, owing to decay of buildings, and that the Society is dependent for the time being on the generosity of its friends for funds with which to carry on its work.

The Committee to nominate officers reported the list of